DC

1 of 8

LIMITED SERIES

DCEASED

WAR OF THE UNDEAD GODS

THE FINAL CHAPTER BEGINS!

AGES 13+

DCCOMICS.COM

TOM TAYLOR - TREVOR HAIRSINE - ANDY LANNING - RAIN BEREDO

No more riddles. No more clues. Game on.

The first of eight 64-page Prestige format specials starring the Dark Knight's worst enemies in their best stories yet.

DC

BATMAN
ONE BAD DAY
THE RIDDLER #1
TOM KING
MITCH GERADS

The Eisner Award-winning team that brought you
Mister Miracle, *The Sheriff of Babylon*, and *Strange Adventures*

August

© & ™ DC

KRYPTON.
THE CITY OF KANDOR.
THEN.

I HAD NO IDEA HOW MUCH A PARENT COULD SACRIFICE FOR A CHILD.

GET TO THE ROCKET!

KOO

NOT UNTIL I HAD MY OWN DID I UNDERSTAND WHAT I WOULD GIVE UP FOR THEM.

WHAT I WOULD DO IF ANY HARM CAME TO THEM.

I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE YOU.

AND WE DON'T WANT YOU TO LEAVE US EITHER, KARA.

HOW MY LIFE WOULD BECOME SECONDARY TO THEIR HAPPINESS.

BUT THIS IS ALL THAT'S LEFT.

KNOWING YOU'RE SAFE, WE CAN FACE WHAT'S TO COME...

Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

"WE CAN FACE BRAINIAC.

"HE WILL TAKE KANDOR.

"AND KRYPTON WILL BE GONE SOON AFTER."

BUT WE DO NOT END HERE.

YOU CARRY THE BEST PARTS OF US WITHIN YOU.

LIVE FOR US, KARA.

"LIVE FOR ALL OF US."

IT WILL TAKE MANY YEARS FOR YOU TO REACH YOUR NEW HOME, DAUGHTER.

BUT YOU WILL SLEEP ON THE VOYAGE.

THOUGH KRYPTON WILL BE LONG GONE, TO YOU IT WILL SEEM LIKE NO TIME HAS PASSED.

WE HAVE SEARCHED THROUGHOUT THE UNIVERSE AND WE HAVE FOUND A PLANET.

WHEN YOU REACH THIS WORLD, YOU WILL HAVE INCREDIBLE ABILITIES.

BUT YOU WILL NOT BE ALONE IN THIS. THERE WILL BE OTHERS ON THIS WORLD WITH FANTASTIC POWERS.

YOU WILL BE SPECIAL, BUT NOT APART.

HELLO?

WE ARE SENDING YOU TO NEW GENESIS.

JOR-EL WOULD SEND HIS SON TO LIVE WITH PRIMITIVES.

WE ARE SENDING YOU TO LIVE WITH GODS.

BENEVOLENT GODS DEVOTED TO PEACE.

HRR.

THIS IS NOT JUST SURVIVAL.

GET AWAY FROM ME!

GET AWAY!

THIS IS MORE.

THIS IS HOW WE SHOW OUR LOVE FOR YOU, KARA.

THD

THIS FUTURE IS THE GREATEST GIFT WE COULD GIVE YOU.

HRRAAAAGH!

"OVER FIVE YEARS OF THE ANTI-LIFE VIRUS RAVAGING THE EARTH, WE LOST SO MANY."

FRIENDS. FAMILY.

HEROES AND VILLAINS.

BUT THEN CAME THE CURE.

AND HEROES WE THOUGHT WERE GONE WERE BROUGHT BACK.

PRETTY BIRD?

TEDDY. HEY, IT'S GONNA BE OKAY.

THANK YOU, CASSANDRA.

IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, HIPPOLYTA.

WHERE IS DIANA?

THOUGH SOME WERE GONE FOREVER.

THEN IT WAS TIME TO BRING BACK THE GREATEST, WHICH WAS FAR FROM STRAIGHTFORWARD.

I COULD COME WITH YOU.

IT'S SPACE, DAMIAN.

I'M BATMAN.

I'M GOING TO THE *CENTER OF THE SUN.*

I'M BATMAN.

IT'S *27 MILLION DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.*

SO I'LL DRESS FOR WARM WEATHER.

YOU'LL WEAR BAT-SHORTS?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

BE SAFE.

AND IF ANYTHING GOES WRONG, I *WILL* FIND A WAY TO WITHSTAND THE HEAT OF A STAR TO COME AFTER BOTH OF YOU.

I BELIEVE YOU.

BECAUSE YOU'RE BATMAN.

OUR STRONGEST WERE SENT TO THE SUN.

WHERE CLARK KENT HAD BEEN FEEDING AT THE HEART OF THE STAR FOR FIVE LONG YEARS.

JON. JUST GET HIS ATTENTION. LURE HIM OUT OF THERE AND WE'LL DO THE REST.

YOU'RE SURE YOU CAN SURVIVE THE SUN'S CORE?

I'M SURE I'M ABOUT TO FIND OUT, CASSIE.

REMEMBER, THAT'S NOT CLARK IN THERE. THAT'S NOT YOUR FATHER.

I KNOW, DINAH.

BUT HE WILL BE AGAIN.

A BALL OF PLASMA WITH NUCLEAR FUSION REACTORS AT ITS CORE. BURNING AT 1.7 MILLION KELVIN.

AND HE DIDN'T HESITATE FOR A SECOND.

THE SON SPED INTO FIRE FOR THE FATHER.

DESPITE THE HEAT AND THE INCANDESCENT LIGHT, THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION SOMEHOW SAW JON COMING.

A BEING POWERED BY SOLAR ENERGY HAD BEEN ABSORBING A SUN FOR FIVE YEARS.

HE WAS FASTER AND **STRONGER** THAN ANYONE COULD IMAGINE.

GREEN CANARY USED THE GREATEST WEAPON IN THE UNIVERSE TO HOLD THE UNLIVING MAN OF STEEL.

HE **SHATTERED** IT LIKE GLASS.

HOLD HIM!

CHK

BETWEEN THE STRENGTH OF THE HEROES HOLDING CLARK, THERE WAS ENOUGH RAW POWER TO SHIFT A **PLANET** FROM ITS ORBIT.

AND STILL, THEY COULD BARELY CONTAIN HIM.

CYBORG! NOW!

DO IT!

EARTH-2.
TWO DAYS LATER.

PRESIDENT LANE.

STILL NO COMMUNICATION FROM ALANTRA 7 AND SAHLNE.

AND? THAT DOESN'T MEAN SOMETHING'S WRONG. TRUST ME, I'VE HAD A LOT OF EXPERIENCE WITH PEOPLE NOT RETURNING MY MESSAGES.

GUY, DO YOU HONESTLY THINK OUR TWO CLOSEST INHABITED ***PLANETS*** ARE JUST DODGING OUR CALLS?

I MEAN, YEAH, MAYBE. HAVE YOU ***MET*** HUMANITY?

MADAM PRESIDENT. I'D LIKE TO INVESTIGATE.

OF COURSE, JOHN. WE HAVE ENOUGH DEFENSES HERE TO COPE WITH YOUR ABSENCE. WE--

ENERGY SPIKE. APOKOLIPTIAN IN NATURE.

BOOM

BOOM TUBE!

WE'RE UNDER ATTACK. ALL LANTERNS AND JUSTICE LEAGUE MEMBERS REPORT TO--

HEY, IT'S OKAY!

IT'S JUST US.

AND... WELL...

MADAM PRESIDENT.

SMALLVILLE?

CLARK.

HI, MA.

YOU CAME BACK.

=AHEM=

SORRY. I THINK I TOOK A WRONG TURN IN THERE.

IT'S MY FIRST INTERGALACTIC PORTAL.

JONATHAN.

I HEAR YOU HIT ME WITH A SHOVEL, MARTHA KENT.

SCOTT.

YEAH.

SUPERMAN. UH... SUPERMANS.

IT'S TIME WE RETURNED TO NEW GENESIS. JACOB HAS WAITED TOO LONG.

I DON'T KNOW WHEN WE'LL BE BACK.

I UNDERSTAND. YOU OWE YOUR SON ALL THE TIME YOU CAN GIVE HIM.

THANK YOU, BARDA, SCOTT. FOR EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE.

I'LL LEAVE YOU TO YOUR REUNION.

I CAN COME WITH YOU.

THANKS. BUT HE'S NOT GOING TO TAKE THIS WELL...

Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

"...AND ALFRED WON'T WANT AN AUDIENCE FOR THIS."

I SEE.

EXCUSE ME.

ALFRED?

I...I JUST NEED A MOMENT, LESLIE.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.

WE BROUGHT BACK EVERYONE WHO WAS INFECTED, LESLIE.

AND THAT'S WONDERFUL NEWS. WHAT'S WRONG?

YOU COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN.

MASTER GRAYSON. TIM. BRUCE.

EVEN *BRUCE* DIDN'T KNOW. YOU DID WHAT YOU HAD TO AT THE TIME.

PLEASE, DO NOT TRY TO ABSOLVE ME OF THIS. THEY COULD HAVE BEEN SAVED.

I PULLED THE TRIGGER. *THREE TIMES.*

I KILLED *MY SONS.*

BRAINIAC'S PROBES APPROACHED EARTH-2 THE NEXT DAY.

PROXIMITY ALERT. PROXIMITY--

BEFORE JESSICA CRUZ'S RING HAD EVEN FINISHED SOUNDING THE ALARM...

...JON AND CLARK WERE ALREADY ENGAGING.

AND IN THE MOMENTS IT TOOK THE REST OF EARTH-2'S GREEN LANTERNS TO ARRIVE...

...THE TWO SUPERMEN HAD TORN THE PROBES TO PIECES.

SERIOUSLY? YOU DIDN'T WANT TO SAVE *ANY* FOR US?

GUY. HIS PROBES SAW US. HE WON'T BE FAR BEHIND.

Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline

"BRAINIAC WILL BE COMING."

THE SHIP ARRIVED HOURS LATER.

CAN YOU SEE INSIDE?

NO. BRAINIAC'S SHIP IS SHIELDED FROM OUR VISION.

IT LOOKS DAMAGED. I THINK SOMETHING'S WRONG.

OH, THEN BY ALL MEANS, GO TAKE A CLOSER LOOK.

BUT WHEN THE ALIEN PROBE IS IN YOUR BRAIN--LIKE, DRIVEN ***DEEP*** INTO THE LANGUAGE CENTERS--THE WORDS YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO PROCESS COMING OUT OF MY MOUTH ANYMORE WILL BE "I TOLD YOU SO".

YOU WHAT? YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A ***SUPER-COMPUTER.*** DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE FALLING FOR THIS TROJAN @#$%. IT'S CLEARLY A TRAP.

BRAINIAC BELIEVES IN HIS OWN INTELLECT AND POWER TOO HIGHLY TO RELY ON DECEIT.

I'M GOING IN. PLEASE WAIT HERE.

NOPE. I'M COMING WITH YOU.

JON...

DAD, HAVING LOST YOU ONCE, I THINK YOU JUST NEED TO ACCEPT THAT I'M NOT LETTING YOU FACE DANGER ALONE AGAIN ANYTIME SOON.

THE TWO ENTERED THE SHIP.

CLARK WAS READY TO PROTECT HIS SON FROM ANY THREAT BRAINIAC POSED...

DAD...

...BUT BRAINIAC WAS NO LONGER A THREAT.

WE HAVE TO STOP THEM.

THE GODS ARE DEAD.

BUT STILL THEY COME, KAL-EL.

A MUCH GREATER THREAT WAS COMING.

THEY WILL POISON THE UNIVERSE.

THE DEAD GODS WILL END EVERYTHING.

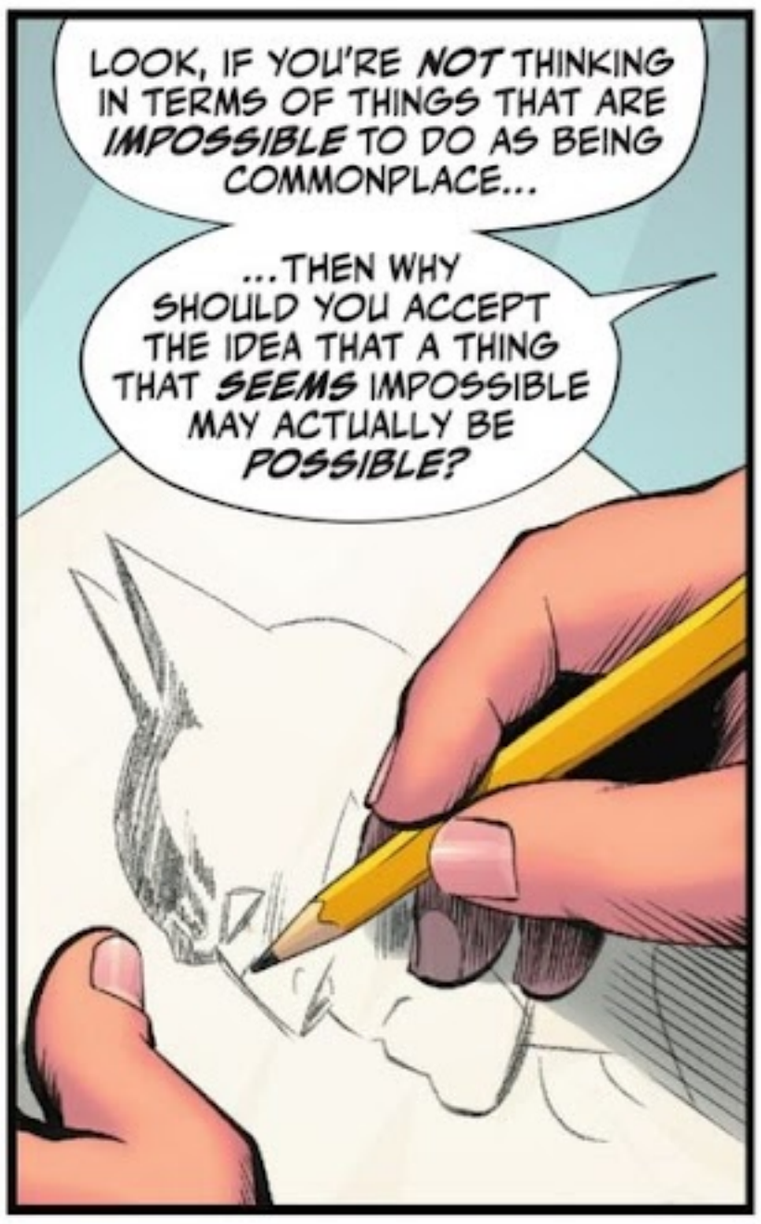
DCEASED
WAR OF THE UNDEAD GODS

writer TOM TAYLOR penciler TREVOR HAIRSINE
inker ANDY LANNING colorist RAIN BEREDO
letterer SAIDA TEMOFONTE main cover HAIRSINE and BEREDO
variant covers by DAN MORA, FRANCESCO MATTINA, KAEL NGU, and SUN KHAMANAKI
editor BEN ABERNATHY

Superman created by Jerry Siegel & Joe Shuster. Supergirl based on the characters created by Jerry Siegel & Joe Shuster. By special arrangement with the Jerry Siegel family.

"While he was with us, Neal was often referred to as a living legend. Let's all take solace from the knowledge the legend will live on."

–Cary Bates


LOOK, IF YOU'RE NOT THINKING IN TERMS OF THINGS THAT ARE IMPOSSIBLE TO DO AS BEING COMMONPLACE...
...THEN WHY SHOULD YOU ACCEPT THE IDEA THAT A THING THAT SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE MAY ACTUALLY BE POSSIBLE?

"Neal was like a father to me on so many levels...Neal, and that whole experience, taught me so much about comics, drawing--life, really. I owe him and the family a debt that can never be repaid."

–Denys Cowan

SIR, I JUST WANTED--
AFTER ALL, ALL NEW IDEAS SPRING FROM ONE MIND, ARE DISAGREED WITH BY EVERYBODY ELSE, AND ARE FINALLY ACCEPTED BY EVERYBODY WITH THIS STATEMENT...
"HOW COULD WE POSSIBLY HAVE THOUGHT IT WAS ANY DIFFERENT?"

"Neal was a true creator's rights warrior. He had the power and the ability to bring notice and to cause change, and he wielded both with the same massive skills he used as a storyteller. He's not just a legend, he's one of the most important people in the history of the comics medium."

–Mike Gold

IT'S JUST YOU--
FOR AN INDIVIDUAL TO THINK THAT WAY, HE HAS TO HAVE EXERCISE.
YOU'RE NOT JUST GOING TO SUDDENLY COME UP WITH A TOTALLY NEW IDEA AND THEN DEFEND IT WITH YOUR LIFE.

"All of you who had their artwork returned or collected an incentive or royalty since the '80s should have sent Neal Adams a thank-you card at the very least. He fought long and hard for what many take for granted these days."

–Larry Hama

YOU HAVE TO HAVE OTHER PEOPLE CREATING AND ASSURING YOU THAT IT'S OKAY.
OTHER PEOPLE MUCKING WITH CONCEPTS THAT SEEM CRAZY, BUT ARE DEFENDABLE ON A CERTAIN LEVEL.
IN ORDER FOR YOU TO EXERCISE YOUR IMAGINATION.

"Neal Adams drew like a Renaissance master...but Neal's impact goes well beyond his art. His fight for Siegel and Shuster was a watershed act that put the value of creators front and center so that no artist's rights could ever be ignored."

–Jenette Kahn

THE EXERCISE OF THE IMAGINATION IS A *DIFFICULT* THING TO DESCRIBE BECAUSE IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A *REAL* THING.
HOW DO YOU *EXERCISE* IMAGINATION?

"Neal changed the game. He made himself a bridge between generations. He forced the industry to pay tribute to his elders and taught my generation to respect ourselves."

–Frank Miller

"With his approach to dynamic representationalism, Neal could do it all--draw powerful action scenes and relatively quiet shots that made you soak in every detail. He left us a huge body of inspirational work to appreciate and learn from."

–Carl Potts

"Neal Adams was--is--quite simply one of the most talented and most influential artists in the history of the comic book industry."

–Roy Thomas

"No artist ever mattered more to DC than Neal Adams: he revitalized key characters, set stylistic and storytelling models, introduced a bevy of brilliant young talents to our pages, argued with us as our conscience, and drew some of the most iconic images of the 20th century."

–Paul Levitz

"Let others expound on Neal's exquisite artwork--my mind turns back to these fond memories of working with Neal."

–Terry Austin

"I will always be grateful for the dramatic way Neal improved life for my family. He was a great man."

–Laura Siegel Larson

"I'd think, 'How can I mess up the inks in just the right way so Neal and I will be able to talk for a few more hours?' In fairness, he also called when he really liked something too. Gonna miss those talks."

–Bill Sienkiewicz

"Neal taught me more than how to master nuances of gesture and expression--or how to stand up for myself. He showed me how to stand up and speak out for the causes I believe in."

–Jon Bogdanove

"Neal's work has influenced every image I have created and continues to be the gold standard I aspire to when I put pencil to paper."

–Jim Lee

"Neal Adams is...a force majeure that few can equal and that history will remember. His work here is done."

–Michael Golden

The Endless Line

WRITTEN BY *TOM KING* · DRAWN BY *JOSH ADAMS*
COLORED BY *HI-FI* · LETTERED BY *CLAYTON COWLES*
EDITED BY *BRITTANY HOLZHERR*

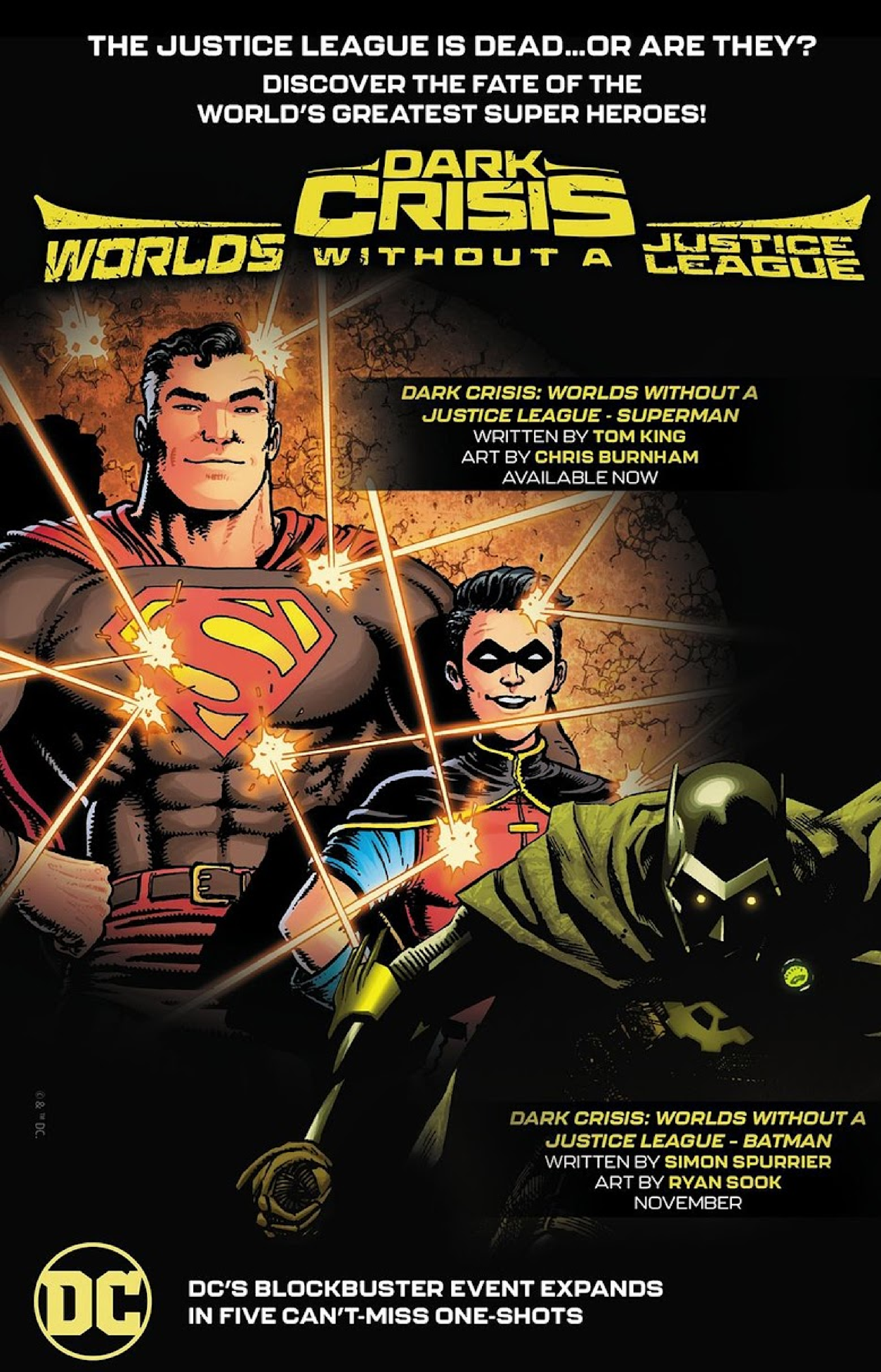
NEAL ADAMS'S DIALOGUE QUOTED FROM *THE COMICS JOURNAL* #72, MAY 1982.

FOR MORE QUOTES REMEMBERING NEAL, PLEASE VISIT WWW.DCCOMICS.COM/REMEMBERINGNEALADAMS

THE JUSTICE LEAGUE IS DEAD...OR ARE THEY?

DISCOVER THE FATE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER HEROES!

DARK CRISIS: WORLDS WITHOUT A JUSTICE LEAGUE



DARK CRISIS: WORLDS WITHOUT A JUSTICE LEAGUE - SUPERMAN
WRITTEN BY **TOM KING**
ART BY **CHRIS BURNHAM**
AVAILABLE NOW

DARK CRISIS: WORLDS WITHOUT A JUSTICE LEAGUE - WONDER WOMAN
WRITTEN BY **TINI HOWARD**
ART BY **LEILA DEL DUCA**
SEPTEMBER

DARK CRISIS: WORLDS WITHOUT A JUSTICE LEAGUE - GREEN LANTERN
WRITTEN BY **PHILLIP KENNEDY JOHNSON**
ART BY **FERNANDO BLANCO**
AUGUST

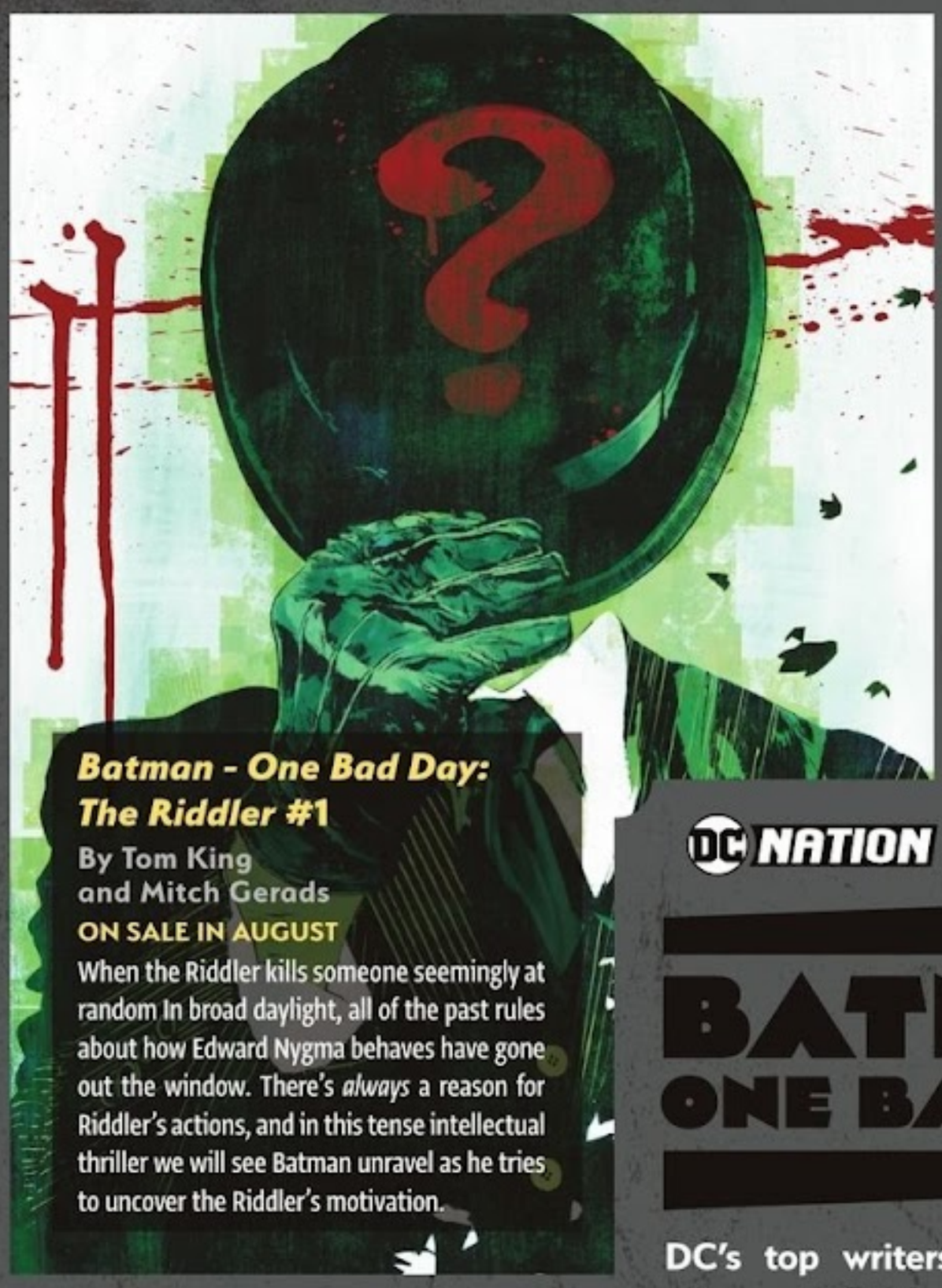
DARK CRISIS: WORLDS WITHOUT A JUSTICE LEAGUE - BATMAN
WRITTEN BY **SIMON SPURRIER**
ART BY **RYAN SOOK**
NOVEMBER

DARK CRISIS: WORLDS WITHOUT A JUSTICE LEAGUE - GREEN ARROW
WRITTEN BY **STEPHANIE PHILLIPS**
ART BY **CLAYTON HENRY**
OCTOBER

© & ™ DC.

DC'S BLOCKBUSTER EVENT EXPANDS IN FIVE CAN'T-MISS ONE-SHOTS

PLUS BONUS STORIES BY BRANDON THOMAS & FICO OSSIO, JEREMY ADAMS & JACK HERBERT, DAN WATTERS & BRANDON PETERSON, DENNIS CULVER & NIK VIRELLA, AND MEGHAN FITZMARTIN & DAN JURGENS



Batman - One Bad Day: The Riddler #1

By Tom King
and Mitch Gerads

ON SALE IN AUGUST

When the Riddler kills someone seemingly at random In broad daylight, all of the past rules about how Edward Nygma behaves have gone out the window. There's *always* a reason for Riddler's actions, and in this tense intellectual thriller we will see Batman unravel as he tries to uncover the Riddler's motivation.

Batman - One Bad Day: Two-Face #1

By Mariko Tamaki
and Javier Fernandez

ON SALE IN SEPTEMBER

Harvey Dent—once known as Two-Face—is back and promising he's reformed, but Batman is watching him closely, hoping the Harvey Dent he once knew will return in full. But when Dent's father, a prominent former attorney, is targeted to be assassinated, Batman believes that Two-Face might be back...but can he face disappointment again in this tragic noir epic?

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

BATMAN ONE BAD DAY

DC's top writers and artists tell all-new, definitive tales of Gotham City's deadliest rogues in *Batman - One Bad Day*: eight standalone, 64-page, one-shot comics, featuring the Dark Knight's worst enemies. Here's a look at the first four.

DON'T MISS *BATMAN - ONE BAD DAY*, STARTING WITH *THE RIDDLER* IN AUGUST!

Batman - One Bad Day: Penguin #1

By John Ridley
and Giuseppe Camuncoli

ON SALE IN OCTOBER

When the Penguin's empire is stolen out from underneath him by his former associate "the Umbrella Man," Cobblepot is left destitute in the streets as crime in Gotham erupts. With one bullet in his gun, the Penguin will have to rebuild himself and take back his empire with a new ragtag crew of associates.

Batman - One Bad Day: Mr. Freeze #1

By Gerry Duggan
and Matteo Scalera

ON SALE IN NOVEMBER

In the early days of Batman and Robin, Gotham City suffered its coldest winter ever. A winter so cold that Victor Fries no longer needed his containment suit to operate or live. While Robin views Mr. Freeze as a tragic figure, Batman is desperate to show him that simply isn't true.

DC COMICS MARIE JAVINS Editor-in-Chief, DC Comics ANNE DePIES Senior VP – General Manager JIM LEE Publisher & Chief Creative Officer DON FALLETTI VP – Manufacturing Operations & Workflow Management LAWRENCE GANEM VP – Talent Services ALISON GILL Senior VP – Manufacturing & Operations JEFFREY KAUFMAN VP – Editorial Strategy & Programming NICK J. NAPOLITANO VP – Manufacturing Administration & Design NANCY SPEARS VP – Revenue

DCEASED: WAR OF THE UNDEAD GODS 1. October, 2022. Published monthly by DC Comics, 100 S. California Street, Burbank, CA 91505. GST # is R125921072. Copyright © 2022 DC Comics. All Rights Reserved. All characters featured in this issue, the distinctive likenesses thereof, and related elements are trademarks of DC Comics. The stories, characters, and incidents mentioned in this magazine are entirely fictional. DC Comics does not read or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or artwork. For Advertising and Custom Publishing contact dccomicsadvertising@dccomics.com. For details on DC Comics Ratings, visit dccomics.com/go/ratings.

Read more FREE comics on ReadComicOnline